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CLAIMS

1.   An electronic device, comprising:

a touch sensitive surface (14) for inputting strokes forming at least one character;

a memory (20); and

code (26) for interpreting inputted strokes and storing the strokes in the memory in a vector graphics format.

2.   An electronic device according to claim 1 further comprising an aerial (18) and code for causing the electronic device to combine strokes representing a plurality of characters and to transmit the combined strokes as a message via the aerial (18) over a mobile network.

3.   An electronic device according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the vector graphics format is the scalable vector graphics format.

4.   An electronic device according to any preceding claim wherein the code records strokes representing one or more characters in the memory without carrying out character recognition on the or each character.

5.   An input method for an electronic device, including:

accepting (40) on a touch sensitive surface at least one stroke forming at least one character;

encoding (42) the strokes entered in a vector graphics format;

storing (44) the encoded strokes.

6.   A method according to claim 5 further comprising

combining (50) the stored encoded strokes to make up a complete message in vector graphics format;

encoding (54) the complete message for transmission; and

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transmitting (56) the complete message over a mobile telephone network.

7.   A method according to claim 5 or 6 wherein the vector graphics format is the scalable vector graphics format.

8.   A method according to claim 5 , 6 or 7 wherein the strokes are recorded in memory without carrying out character recognition on the or each character.

9.   A computer program product containing code for causing an electronic device to carry out the steps of a method according to any of claims 5 to 8.

10.   A computer program product recorded on a data carrier (20) containing code for causing a mobile device to carry out the steps of:

accepting on a touch sensitive surface (14) at least one stroke of text made up of at least one character;

encoding the strokes entered in a vector graphics format;

storing the encoded strokes.